

1 laws and shall enact only public general laws which are
2 defined as laws which in their terms and effect apply
3 throughout the State.

4 The General Assembly may nevertheless enable any
5 county or counties to exercise any power or perform any
6 function denied to other counties subject to such standards
7 as the General Assembly may prescribe. No county shall be
8 exempt from a public general law."

9 Now, it is that limitation upon the General
10 Assembly that no county shall be exempt from a public
11 general law which I wish to see included in the present
12 Section 3.23.

13 When I first started work back in 1965 as Chairman
14 of the Local Government Committee of the Constitutional
15 Convention Commission, our study of the practices in the
16 General Assembly, particularly those dealing with the
17 practice of exempting from a general law county or
18 counties, we found that that was a method of trading back
19 and forth identified as backscratching and log rolling.

20 At that time the decision was made that there
21 would be a specific limitation with respect to the